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PROPAGANDA UNLIMITE

A bill filed by Representative Katharine St. George (R.-N. Y.) which would have denied below-cost postal rates to subversive propagandists is dying in the waning weeks of the second session of the 83d Congress. It was opposed by Communist publications, by some newspapers and by Editor and Publisher magazine, principal trade publication of the American newspaper business.

The Eisenhower Administration has succeeded in blocking any action on the bill at this congressional session.

Paradoxically, the bill was denounced by some newspapers as "un-American;" other critics said if Communist propaganda is bad for the public it should be barred entirely from the mails and. therefore, the St. George bill does not go far enough. Mrs. St. George considered the measure too mild, but felt it was a first step toward correcting the present policy which is incapable of con-

trolling Red propaganda. .

The death of Mrs. St. George's proposal re-emphasizes certain aspects of Communist propaganda in the U.S. mails. American taxpayers are called upon to pay a part of the cost of handling mailings which are intended to undermine our form of government. In some instances, these mailings are published or distributed by agencies the American Government has described as subversive. It is difficult to see how this practice can be described as anything but forcing the American citizen to subsidize treason against his own country.

The position of the Eisenhower Administration presents certain anomalies. Allan Dulles, head of the Central Intelligence Agency, has warned that the Soviet Union is spending \$2,000,000,000 each year on propaganda and infiltration activities, a major part of these being directed against the United

Attorney General Brownell said foreign agents representing the Communist International send more than 1,000,-000 pieces of propaganda into the United States annually.

Customs and postal officials have testified repeatedly they review at least 1.000 pieces of Communist propaganda a month, branding it non-mailable, but they admit much of it goes through undetected.

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Ross Rizley, former solicitor of the Us S. Post Office Department, emphasized this flood of incoming propaganda has increased 1,500 percent in a 12month period.

Yet opposition to the St. George bill rame from the Post Office Department and Justice Department, while the attorney general's office said it already has the tools it needs to handle the job.

Louis Budenz, former top-echelon Communist who has repudiated that party, described its propaganda as "poison, which should be labeled accordingly." Elizabeth Bentley, one-time Communist courier, who also renounced the party, warned that its propaganda is slick, effective, identifiable in many instances only by experts, and "worth a division of troops in the field."

As of today, the United States is the principal target of the millions of pieces of Kremlin-inspired lies. It pours into this country daily, it floods the mail system, and the American people pay in part for its distribution and delivery.

Having sanctioned the death of the only active measure which sought to do something about this problem, the Administration automatically has assumed responsibility for meeting the threat in its own way. If it really has the tools to handle the job, it had better use them; it was only the obvious failure of present methods that prompted the effort by Congresswoman St. George.



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Inside Story of Anti-Hitler Plot

HITLER, From Page 1

Beck, another of the plotters, his sensitive, rather spiritual, face radiating serenitiy.

OLBRICHT LEFT time for thought. Tardily, but still according to plan, he announced to the police president, Count Helldorf, that the Fuehrer was dead and that the Wehrmacht was assuming the protection of the government and was placing the police force under its jurisdiction. The "surprised" Count Helldorf played along with him. He asked no questions but made a short bow and started to leave the room.

Beck's calm voice called him back. "One moment," Beck said to Olbricht. "In all loyalty, we must inform the chief of police that according to certain reports from headquarters, Hitler may not be dead. We must now decide clearly how ...

Olbricht interrupted. "Keitel is lying!" he exclaimed. "Keitel

is lying."

Beck did not argue. He merely asked for solidarity, and added: "For me, the man is dead. Indisputable proof that Hitler-and not his double is alive cannot come for hours. By then our action in Berlin must be completed."

There followed a welter of events which defies description, but the end result was that we lost the race against. time. Hitler's voice came over the radio before the plotters could make their own proclamations, and that magic voice proved stronger than our military machine.

A few hours later, all was over, Beck, Olbricht and Von Stauffenberg were shot, and thus began the most merciless blood purge of the Third Reich.

A BITTER PHRASE describes this ill-starred coup: "Too late."

tempt to take over a governmen there will always be two different points of view among their opponents. One group will say, "Let, us resist at ever, it is the minority which once. It is easiest at the be-dictate, the course of action—

fresh air is always good. Let us wait and see a bit longer.

That is what happened in Germany. It wasn't that on January 30, 1933, 65 million people entered into a conspiracy to extirpate the Jews, to abolish the churches, to make. war against their neighbors and to lock themselves up in

one great concentration camp, Even "decent" people ad-mitted that there were dangerous loopholes in the law Naive predecessors had ne-glected to make provisions for dealing with the Communists. Now Hitler had promised to "get rid of the Communists." So why get excited when he corrected the errors of former governments and put those enemies of the state into prison camps?

THAT IS the way it started quite decently. The trouble is that this concept of an "enemy of the state" broadens in proportion to the aggressiveness of its proponents. In excited times, it is a magic formula.

First it covered only the Communists. Soon it included all Marxists, then the "pinks," then the liberals, then those preachers of Christian softheartedness; the clergy—and always the Jews. Finally, an "enemy of the state" was any-one who disagreed with this new political philosophy.

The difficulty was that all, this did not occur in rapid succession. If the doctrine had been born full-fledged, it would have been easier to see through it. Instead, it was de-

veloped gradually.

After storms there came. calms which provoked conjectures that the wild men were gettinig "reasonable." After gettinig "reasonable." After all, the "moderates" were still in the majority. (Does anyone When political fanatics atment to take over a government to take over a government the "moderates" held a majority in the government to the end?)

In turbulent times, however, it is the minority which

ginning." The other will are gue, "How the you know they are really so evil? A little er. A "wait and see" attitude may be all right in normal times, but in dealing with ruthless fanatics there can be no passive indulgence. Each day gained by the demagogue strengthens his position.

> THERE IS A second reason why the putsch was doomed to failure. For a long time, the Germans had faced the probability that they would be crushed between two war machines, the Allied and the Russian. Hitler and Goebbels were able to whip up their people with the slogan, "Victory or destruction."

> The plotters knew better than to hope for victory, but they were still trying to save their country from destruc-tion. They repeatedly but unsuccessfully sought assurances from the Western Allies that their proposed putsch would do so.

What they wanted particu-larly was assurance that they would be able to negotiate directly with London and Washington on a plane of political equality and would not have to deal with Moscow. They were unable to obtain that assurance, despite the intercession of Allen Dulles, then head of the USS in Switzer-land and now head of the CIA, and it must be admitted that this rejection by the Western Allies prevented them from acting with complete inner freedom.

They might believe that the. assassination attempt would succeed, that the putsch itself would succeed. But the putsch would make sense only if the plotters could convince the Allies that the partition of Germany was not the answer to brownshirt totalitarianism. A way would have to be found to prevent the rise of a new totalitarianism in the political vacuum created by the collapse of Hitler's New Order.

The plotters could not be sure that their action would have this result. They were not inspired by the faith that their mission had meaning, so they acted with the courage of

MEN PLOTTING against a mighty system may hate their



Dr. Karl Goerdeler, one of the leaders of the conspiracy against "Hitler, was saved from arrest when the plotters' pipeline into the Gestapo tipped them off hours in advance.

masters, but it is a good guess that they love their country Their intention is not to help the enemy, but to negotiate a solution acceptable to both

They must be able to give their own hesitant friends the honest assurance that the risks involved in a revolution are worthwhile. They must fee in all conscience that their ac tion will not make matters worse.

Our experts knew on that July 20 that Germany had los the war and that she would be occupied. But they did not know how much destruction could have been averted in the war had ended then; they did not know how many cities then standing would be lev eled in the nine months be fore VE-Day.

That is the real lesson of the abortive purson of July 20, 1944. No situation inside a dictatorship is so hopeless that it precludes any change of "free" action. But that action cannot be bought will gions or suggested by propaganda it must be built on a firm faith that other peoples are willing and anxious to cooper afe, once the impending sea ate, once the impending sys tem is overthrown.